Production of Pulses and Oil Seeds

†2293. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of pulses and oil seeds in the country is not in consonance with the requirement;

(b) if so, the names of the items in the above category in respect of which production is less than the requirement and what is the extent of shortfall; and

(c) the steps being taken to enhance their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirement of oilseeds & pulses is not calculated crop-wise but it is calculated taking in to account the category as a whole. However, the shortfall in the production of pulses and edible oils is about 2 million tonnes for each category.

(c) To enhance the production of pulses a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in 27 States/UTs. Another Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is being implemented in 25 States. Under these programmes, financial assistance is being provided to the States for production and distribution of certified seeds, seed minikits, rhyzolium culture, sprinkler sets, gypsum/pyrites, micro-nutrients and improved farms implements etc. In addition to this, field demonstration and farmers training are also being organised for the transfer of improved production & protection Technology to the farmers' field for increasing the production of pulses & oilseeds.

Training to Farm Women Workers of Kerala

2294. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government has submitted a revised project to impart training to farm women workers of Kerala in the latest technologies of agriculture and allied subjects; and

(b) if so, the details of the project and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The proposal received from the Kerala State Government entitled "Programme for Agro-Based Vocational Training for Women" envisages:

(i) Agro-based vocational training for farm women at an estimated cost of Rs. 17.62 crores, covering 14 districts.

(ii) The major components of the Project are:

— Setting up and strengthening of 14 Agro-based Vocational Training Centres in the State;

— Capactiy Building and Skill Upgradation of farm women through various types of trainings such as Village Level Training Institutional Training etc.;

— Extention Support to farm women through Result Demonstrations, Study Tours, Mahila Goshtis & Organisation of Characha Mandals;

— Infrastructural & Administrative Support through civil works, equipment, staff and mobility;

— Monitoring & Evaluation Support; and

— Setting up of Mobile Marketing Units.

(iii) The Government of Kerala has forwarded the aforesaid project for availing Dutch Assistance. The Dutch Authorities have, however, expressed their inability to commit themselves to new projects, including the proposed project in Kerala, to drastic cuts in their budget.

Integrated Farming of Coconut

2295. SHRI J CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cocunut Development Board has sanctioned Rs. 713.025 lakhs for the Scheme Integrated Farming in coconut holding during 1999-2000 in Kerala but no amount has been released, so far, though the implementation of the programme which is in progress in the State; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Coconut Development Board has earmarked a total outlay of Rs. 713.025 lakhs for